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June 08, 2004

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APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/460,974

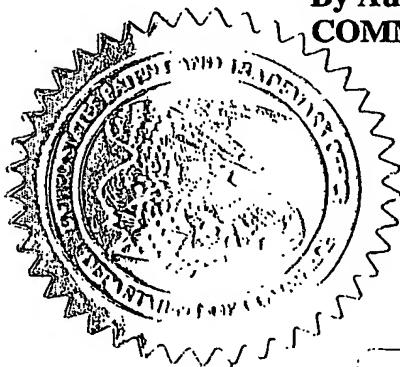
FILING DATE: April 07, 2003

RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT/US04/10703

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E. BORNETT  
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04/07/03  
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PTO/SB/16 (10/01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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### PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c)

Express Mail Label No.: EL 797947981 US

INVENTOR(S)					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)	
Clinton W. Patrick E.		Pike, Sr. Allard		Cypress, Texas Gainesville, Georgia	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Inventors are being named on the separately numbered sheets attached hereto.					
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)					
SOUND ABSORBING WALL SYSTEM AND METHODS OF PRODUCING SAME					
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label		24504 (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)		or <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below	
NAME		George M. Thomas Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley, L.L.P.			
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					30339-5948 770-951-0933
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification Number of Pages <u>12</u> <input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number					
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) Number of Pages <u>0</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76.					
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT					
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27				FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)  160.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees					
<input type="checkbox"/> The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
This invention was made by an agency of the United States government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contact number are:					

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE:

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Date:

4/7/03

REGISTRATION NO.: 22,260

DOCKET NO.: 011645-8010

### USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is used by the public to file (and by the PTO to process) a provisional application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 USC 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the PTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box Provisional Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revisions.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-8032

<b>Complete If Known</b>	
Application Number	Not yet assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Clinton W. Pike, Sr.
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Group / Art Unit	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket No.	011645-8010

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**200.00**

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**

☐ Check ☒ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account

Deposit Account Number: **20-0778**

Deposit Account Name: **Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer Risley, L.L.P.**

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments

☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account

**FEE CALCULATION**

1. BASIC FILING FEE		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Large Entity Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1001	750	2001	375	Utility Filing Fee	
1002	330	2002	165	Design Filing Fee	
1003	520	2003	260	Plant Filing Fee	
1004	750	2004	375	Reissue Filing Fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional Filing Fee	160.00
<b>SUBTOTAL (1)</b>				<b>(\$)</b>	<b>160.00</b>

**2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE**

Total Claims		Extra Claims		Fee From Below		Fee Paid	
Independent		- 20**=		X 9.00	=		
Multiple Dependent		- 3**=		X 42.00	=		
				140.00	=		

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20	
1201	84	2201	42	Independent claims in excess of 3	
1203	280	2203	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
1204	84	2204	42	**Reissue independent claims over original patent	
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	
<b>SUBTOTAL (2)</b>				<b>(\$)</b>	<b>0</b>

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

**3. ADDITIONAL FEES (continued)**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge-late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge-late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	410	2252	205	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	930	2253	465	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	320	2401	160	Notice of Appeal	
1402	320	2402	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	280	2403	140	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive-unavoidable	
1453	1,300	2453	650	Petition to revive-unintentional	
1501	1,300	2501	650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	470	2502	235	Design issue fee	
1503	630	2503	315	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee for provisional application	
1808	180	1808	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	40.00
1809	750	2809	375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	750	2810	375	For each add. invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	750	2801	375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited exam. of a design application	

Other fee (specify):

**SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)** **40.00**

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

**SUBMITTED BY**

Typed or Printed Name	<b>George M. Thomas</b>	Registration No.	<b>22,260</b>	Telephone Number	<b>770-933-9500</b>
Signature	<i>George M Thomas</i>	(Attorney/Agent)		Date	<b>04.07.03</b>

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Confidentiality is governed by 37 USC 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO Commissioner of Patents, Washington D.C. 20231

## **SOUND ABSORBING WALL SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING SAME**

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Field of the Invention**

5           The present disclosure is generally related to sound absorbing wall systems and methods of producing the same.

#### **Description of Related Art**

          Soundproofing of most rooms in residential and commercial applications has traditionally  
10   required separate installation of soundproofing material from the drywall or other interior product that is typically fastened to studs or frames in homes or buildings. For example, to make a soundproof wall, the soundproofing material was first fastened to the studs, and then plywood or drywall material was added to the soundproofing material. One disadvantage of such a soundproofing system occurs when the frames or studs to which the soundproofing material was  
15   attached was subjected to vibrations. The soundproofing material moved separately from the drywall and/or plywood, causing cracks in the drywall at the joints where it was mated or between the ceiling and wall, or the wall and the floor. Further, by installing a separate soundproofing system than the drywall or plywood, at least one additional step was required in the construction of the wall, thus adding to material, labor, costs, and time.

20           Other soundproofing systems have added the soundproofing material to the outside of the finished drywall. This also adds at least another step in the wall construction process, also adding to material, labor, costs, and time. Additionally, such systems usually had to use special wall construction techniques or devices in order to support the additional soundproofing material.

U.S. Patent No. 4,719,730 issued to Winkowski ('730 patent) discloses a partition wall with laminated panels hung from a wall framework by clips applied to the back of the panel. The panels consist of conventional gypsum base board to which a rigid, high density glass fiber core board is adhered with adhesive beads. The glass fiber core board has adhered thereover an acoustical transparent, thin, decorative wall face surface laminate bonded to the surface of the core board and the gypsum board edges. The panels of the '730 patent, however, require specific suspension assemblies to affix the panels to metal studs in the building, complicating the procedure and adding to labor and costs of installing the sound absorptive tack board.

## SUMMARY

Embodiments herein provide sound absorbing wall systems and methods of producing the same. One embodiment of a sound absorbing wall system includes a wallboard material and a soundproofing material adhered to the wallboard material. Briefly described, one embodiment of a method of producing the sound absorbing wall system includes adhering a soundproofing material to a wallboard material.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Many aspects of the sound absorbing wall systems and methods of producing the same can be better understood with reference to the following drawings. The components in the drawings are not necessarily to scale. Moreover, like reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

FIG. 1 is a side view of a portion of one embodiment of the disclosed sound absorbing wall system.

FIG. 2 is a side view of one embodiment of a system used to produce the sound absorbing wall system of FIG. 1.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

5 As identified in the foregoing, sound absorbing wall systems and methods for producing them may be difficult and costly to make and/or install. Additionally, sound absorbing wall systems may leave the outer surface of the wall with a textured or decorative finish that may not be finished, or at least may not be finished in the same manner as conventional gypsum-based, plywood, or other conventional wallboard material. Therefore, needed are sound absorbing wall  
10 systems that may be installed and finished the same as conventional gypsum-based wallboard.

Disclosed herein are sound absorbing wall systems and methods of producing the sound absorbing wall systems. The disclosed sound absorbing wall systems may be installed the same as conventional gypsum-based wallboard, without the need for special tools or devices for affixing the panels of the system to studs or frames in the home or building in which it is being  
15 installed. Additionally, the sound absorbing wall systems may be finished the same as conventional gypsum-based wallboard, *e.g.*, wallpapered, painted, textured, *etc.* The disclosed methods for making improved sound absorbing wall systems provide a process that is efficient and economical in operation and may be performed by, for example, manufacturers of conventional gypsum-based wallboard, plywood boards, and/or manufacturers of conventional  
20 soundproofing material, as an additional step in their production.

Reference will now be made to the drawings. In Fig. 1 is a side view of an exemplary embodiment of a sound absorbing wall system 10. The system of FIG. 1 includes a wallboard material 12, with a layer of soundproofing material 14 adhered thereto with an adhesive 16. The

adhesive 16 may be absorbed into the wallboard material 12 and/or the soundproofing material 14, but has been shown in FIG. 1 for purposes of illustration. The adhesive may be applied to either the inner face 18 of the wallboard material 12, or the inner face 20 of the soundproofing material 14. Preferably, the outer face 22 of the wallboard material 12 is the outer wall of the sound absorbing wall system 10.

The wallboard material 12 may be, for example, a gypsum-based wallboard, plywood, cementitious, wood composite, fiberglass or any wallboard conventionally used to finish walls, ceilings and/or floors in homes and buildings. For example, the wallboard 12 may be any gypsum-based wallboard manufactured by and commercially available from manufacturers such as National Gypsum Company in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA; USG of Chicago, Illinois, USA; and/or Georgia Pacific Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia, USA. An exemplary wallboard material 12 is approximately one-eighth ( $1/8$ ) to three quarters ( $3/4$ ) inch. Preferably, the wall board material is about three-eighths ( $3/8$ ) to five-eighths ( $5/8$ ) inch thick. More preferably, the wallboard material 12 is approximately one-half ( $1/2$ ) inch thick.

The soundproofing material 14 may be, for example, any sound-absorbing or sound-dampening material that is preferably lightweight and is able to be adhered to the wallboard material 12. The preferred soundproofing material is resistant to degradation by inorganic acids, organic acids, reducing agents, detergent solutions, alcohols, aliphatic hydrocarbons, mineral oil, amines and aldehydes. Additionally, in some embodiments, the soundproofing material 14 may have as its characteristics, or have fillers that lend it the characteristics, of being waterproof, vaporproof and/or resistant to mold and/or mildew. Further, in one exemplary embodiment, the soundproofing material 14 may be cut with any tool used to cut conventional gypsum-based drywall. For example, the soundproofing material 14 may be any polyvinyl chloride (PVC)

sound control material. A specific example of the soundproofing material 14 is a high density PVC sound control material manufactured by and commercially available as UltraBloc™ from Pandel, Inc. of Cartersville, Georgia, USA as a laminate. The soundproofing material 14 reflects sound and, ideally, prevents it from being transmitted through the soundproofing material 14.

5           Fillers may also be added that increase the sound-reduction capability of the soundproofing material 14, so long as the fillers do not unduly increase the weight of the soundproofing material 14 or cause handling problems. Fillers may be added to impart strength and toughness to the PVC and to improve the PVC resistance to tearing, abrasion, flex fatigue, and also to increase durability. Additionally, fillers may be added to improve the processibility  
10 of the PVC, as well as function as a viscosity repressant, a heat stabilizer, a fire retardant, and as a cheaper replacement for the more expensive PVC. Specific examples of fillers that may be used include the following: diisononyl phthalate (DINP); 2-2-4 trimethyl 1,3-pentadioldiisobutyrate (TXIB); Viscobyk™ 4040 for a viscosity repressant; Plastistab™ 2000 for a metal heat stabilizer (*e.g.*, Ca, Ba, Zn); carbon black and/or silica; PVC plasticizer, *e.g.*, OXY™  
15 6338 or Borden™ 260ss; aluminum trihydroxide as a fire retardant; calcium carbonate and/or flyash filler; and Quicklime™.

An exemplary soundproofing material 14 is approximately one-eighth (1/8) to one-quarter (1/4) inch thick. Preferably, the soundproofing material 14 is approximately one-quarter (1/4) inch thick. In one exemplary embodiment, the soundproofing material 14 is a laminate that is  
20 applied to the wallboard material 12.

The adhesive 16 is any adhesive or glue that is able to bond the soundproofing material 14 to the wallboard material 12. The adhesive 16, in addition to initially adhering the soundproofing material 14 to the wallboard material 12, prevents the soundproofing material 14



from de-laminating in handling, shipping, installation, and use during the life of the sound absorbing wall system 10. In particular, the adhesive 16 is preferably any adhesive formulated to adhere to drywall paper coating used on gypsum-based drywall board. For example, adhesives that may be used include polyurethane adhesives and adhesives that are used to bond expandable polystyrene (EPS) to wallboard. For example, adhesive 16 may be/include an acrylic polymer. The acrylic polymer may function as a binder for non-cementitious materials. The adhesive 16 may impart good water resistance, adhesion, and durability. Additionally, the adhesive 16 may provide good color fastness, resistance to yellowing, and good resistance to chalking. In addition, the adhesive 16 desirably has a good resistance to dirt. An example of a specific adhesive 16 that may be used includes, but is not limited to, Rhoplex® EI-8764, manufactured by, and commercially available from, Rohm & Haas, France, S.A. in Paris, France. The Rhoplex® EI-8764 acrylic polymer is particularly well suited for application as the adhesive 16 due to its characteristics. Such characteristics include a solids content of approximately 60.0 to 61.0% by weight; a pH of approximately 8.9 to 9.7; a Viscosity of approximately 400 to 1500 centipoises (cps); a glass transition temperature of approximately 12 to 14 °C; and an anionic emulsifier charge.

Methods of producing the sound absorbing wall systems are also disclosed. An exemplary embodiment of a method for making the sound-absorbing wall system includes adhering the soundproofing material 14 to the wallboard material 12. Shown in FIG. 2 is an illustration of an exemplary system 100 used to practice the disclosed method. In the system 100, an adhesive dispensing device 110 dispenses the adhesive 16 onto the wallboard material 12. The exemplary adhesive dispensing device 110 includes a roller 112 that smoothes the adhesive 16 onto the wallboard 12 dispensed from a reservoir 114.

With the adhesive 16 applied to the wallboard, the soundproofing material 14 is applied to the wallboard material 12. For example, as shown in FIG. 2, a roll 116 of the soundproofing material 14 may be unrolled over the wallboard material 12. Preferably, the soundproofing material 14 of the roll 116 is approximately the same width of the wallboard material 12 onto which it is being adhered. An optional tensioner 118 may be disposed on or near the roll 116 to provide the appropriate amount of tension on the roll 116 as the soundproofing material 14 is being paid off the roll 116. Additionally, an optional mating roll 120 may be placed at the point of contact between the wallboard material 12 and the soundproofing material 14 to urge the soundproofing material 14 into tight contact with the wallboard material 12.

10 A wire or roll cutter 122 cuts the soundproofing material 14 to a length that is approximately equivalent to the length of the wallboard material 12. The wallboard 12 may be precut to a predetermined length before the soundproofing material 14 is adhered thereto, or it may be cut at the same time as the roll cutter 122 cuts the soundproofing material 14. The system 100 may also include an optional rolling conveyor belt 124, moved by rolls 126 in the direction of arrows 128. The conveyor belt 124 moves the wallboard material 12 through the assembly process of the sound absorbing wall systems 10.

The sound absorbing wall system 10 can be installed and used in numerous building applications utilizing drywall fastening and installation systems, thereby producing a sound absorbing wall system in a room or building. Drywall screws used to install gypsum-based wallboards, ranging from approximately one to two inches, may be used to install the sound absorbing wall system 10. No special devices or configurations are necessary to produce a sound absorbing wall system in a building or room. The sound absorbing wall system 10 may be attached to conventional metal or wood studs or frame of a building making the sound absorbing

5 wall system 10 inexpensive and flexible. In this fashion, all ceilings and walls where conventional gypsum-based drywall is used may be soundproofed using the sound absorbing wall system 10. For example, in residential houses, the floors reflect sound which can be absorbed by the walls and ceilings in which the sound absorbing wall system 10 has been installed. By further example, in multi-story houses or buildings, the ceiling below the area to be soundproofed can have the sound absorbing wall system 10 installed, further reducing outside noise. In apartment complexes or hotels, the walls between apartments and rooms, as well as all ceilings with any apartment or room above, can be soundproofed using the sound absorbing wall system 10.

10 In a preferred embodiment, when the sound absorbing wall system 10 is installed in a room, the soundproofing material 14 is disposed against the frame or studs of the room. Thus, the wallboard material 12 is exposed as the outer wall and may be finished in any manner as conventional gypsum-based wallboard, or plywood, giving flexible design choices.

15 It should be emphasized that the above-described embodiments of the sound absorbing wall systems and embodiments of methods for producing the sound absorbing wall systems are merely possible example implementations. Many variations and modifications may be made to the above-described embodiment(s). All such modifications and variations are intended to be included herein within the scope of this disclosure and protected by the following claims.

**CLAIMS**

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

1. A sound absorbing wall system, comprising:  
5 a wallboard material; and  
a soundproofing material adhered to the wallboard material.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the soundproofing material is a laminate.
- 10 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the soundproofing laminate comprises a polyvinyl chloride composition.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein the soundproofing material is adhered to the wallboard material with an adhesive.
- 15 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the adhesive comprises an material chosen from at least one of a polyurethane, a silicone and an acrylic polymer.
6. The system of claim 1, further comprising studs,  
20 wherein the wallboard material with the soundproofing material adhered thereto is affixed to the studs, with the soundproofing material abutting the studs.

7. A method of producing a sound absorbing wall system, comprising:  
adhering a soundproofing material to a wallboard material.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising affixing the wallboard material with the  
5 soundproofing material adhered thereto to studs in a building.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein adhering the soundproofing material to the wallboard  
material comprises:

applying an adhesive to the wallboard material; and

10 applying the soundproofing material to the wallboard material with the adhesive disposed  
thereon.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein applying the soundproofing material to the wallboard  
material with the adhesive disposed thereon comprises:

15 unrolling a roll of the soundproofing material; and

applying the soundproofing material to the wallboard material with the adhesive disposed  
thereon.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising urging the soundproofing material into tight  
20 contact with the wallboard material with the adhesive disposed thereon.

12. The method of claim 7, further comprising cutting the soundproofing material with the  
wallboard material adhered thereto into a predetermined shape.

13. The method of claim 7, further comprising installing the wallboard with the soundproofing material adhered thereto in a building by fastening the wallboard to a frame or studs in the building.

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Sound absorbing wall systems are disclosed that include a wallboard material and a soundproofing material adhered to the wallboard material. Also disclosed are methods for producing sound absorbing wall systems, one method including adhering a soundproofing material to a wallboard material. With the method, the soundproofing material adhered to the wallboard material can be directly installed in homes and/or buildings as conventional wallboard.

5

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenship's are as stated below next to our names, we believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is described in the accompanying provisional patent application and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**SOUND ABSORBING WALL SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING SAME**

filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office herewith.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including any claims attached thereto. The specification contains a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable a person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and sets forth the best mode contemplated by me (us) of carrying out the invention.

We do not know and do not believe that the invention was ever known or ever used in the United States before our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof, or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the date of this application.

As the named inventors, we hereby appoint the following attorneys to file this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

George M. Thomas, Reg. No. 22,260  
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Stephen R. Risley, Reg. No. 35,659  
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## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Page 2 of 3

For the invention entitled:

**SOUND ABSORBING WALL SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING SAME**

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: Clinton W. Pike, Sr.

Inventor's Signature

Date 4/3/03Country of Citizenship: USAResidence: 15611 Stable Brook Circle, Cypress, Texas 77429Post Office Address: Same as residence

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Page 3 of 3

For the invention entitled:

**SOUND ABSORBING WALL SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING SAME**

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of joint inventor: Patrick E. AllardInventor's Signature 

Date

4/3/2003

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Docket: 011645-8010